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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Robert M. COOPER, et al.

Art Unit : 2611

Serial No. : 09/365,734

Examiner : Son Huynh

Filed : August 3, 1999

Title : PROVIDING INTERACTIVE LINKS IN TV PROGRAMMING

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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DEC 06 2002

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

In response to the office action mailed September 5, 2002, please amend the application as follows.

12/12/2002 KVESTAL 00000001 061050 09365734

02 FC:1201 84.00 CH  
01 FC:1202 360.00 CH

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 25 with the following rewritten paragraph.

-- Fig. 6B is an example of a webpage 610 that could be generated and overlaid by the set top device on top of the screen of TV program content shown in Fig. 6A. In this example, the webpage overlay 610 includes 58 hotspots, each of which is capable of individually invoking an associated resource when selected by the viewer (e.g., user of the set top device). In this example, each of the 48 states within the mainland portion of the United States 614, plus the two boxes 618 and 620 corresponding to Alaska and Hawaii, respectively, represents a separately selectable hotspot. In addition, the logo 612 is a separate hotspot as is each of the buttons 622 overlaying the scroll region. Each of the hotspots 612, 614, 618 and 620 are located on the webpage to be in registration with their respective underlying graphics in the TV program content (elements 602, 603, 605 and 607 respectively). For example, hotspot 612 is defined to be the same shape, size and at the same screen location as its associated graphic, the TV station logo 602. Accordingly, whenever a viewer moves a cursor or other input selection device to a position on the TV screen such that the cursor is on top of the logo 602, the cursor necessarily also falls within hotspot 612. If the user then clicked the cursor input device at that point, hotspot 612 thereby would be selected, and the action associated with hotspot 612 would be performed. --